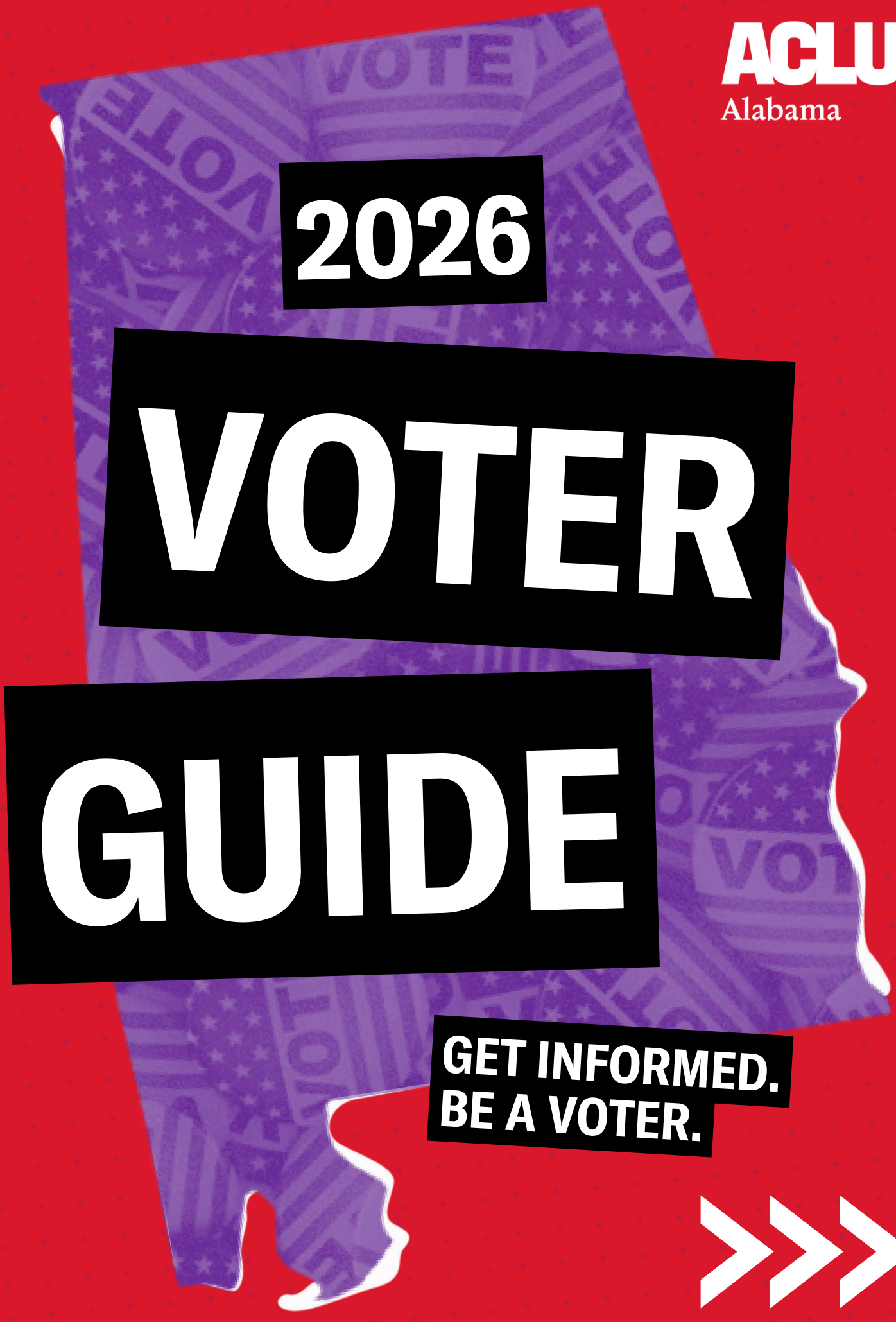
ACLU Alabama

2026 VOTER GUIDE



GET INFORMED.
BE A VOTER.

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This election year,

BE A VOTER.

The 2026 General Election is your next chance to vote!

This statewide election in Alabama will determine seats for local, state, and federal positions– including congressional representation. And with recent attacks on voting rights, 2026 will be more important than ever!

In this guide you will find helpful resources on voter registration, important election deadlines and dates, voting rights, and more.

INDEX

04 REGISTER TO VOTE & FIND YOUR POLLING LOCATION

06 2026 ELECTION TIMELINE

07 YOUR RIGHTS AT THE POLLS

08 WHAT TO KNOW AT THE POLLS

09 ABSENTEE VOTING

10 WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT

11 WHAT'S AT STAKE

12 VOTER PROTECTION HOTLINE

13 APPENDIX

23 MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?



Let's make sure.

Sometimes voters don't know they are listed as "inactive" or removed from the voter rolls entirely. It's a good practice to check before an election to make sure you are registered and all your voter information is accurate. The best place to do that is on the Secretary of State's website.

Not registered to vote? Let's fix that.

Register to vote on the Secretary of State's website and make your voice heard this November!

Where do I vote?

Find your polling place on the Secretary of State's website and make a plan to vote. Be sure to check your polling place the night before or morning of voting just in case it has changed.

REGISTER TO VOTE

CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS

FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

SCAN HERE

Or visit AlabamaVotes.gov

ELECTION TIMELINE



→ **OCTOBER 19**

Voter Registration Deadline

→ **OCTOBER 27**

Last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail

→ **OCTOBER 29**

Last day to apply for an absentee ballot in person



→ **NOVEMBER 2**

Last day to hand deliver absentee ballot

→ **NOVEMBER 3**

Absentee ballots returned by mail must be received by 12PM noon.

→ **NOVEMBER 3**

ELECTION DAY

YOUR RIGHTS AT THE POLLS

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

Vote with privacy and confidentiality.	Ask for and/or receive help when going to vote, as long as that person is not an employer or union representative.	Be free from intimidation from campaigners. They must be at least 30 feet from the polling place.
Have a fully ADA compliant and accessible polling place. Be sure to check that your polling place is ADA compliant before the absentee ballot application deadline.	Vote a regular ballot even if listed "inactive." A voter who is listed as “inactive” is eligible to vote a regular ballot after filling out an update form.	Complete a provisional ballot if you forgot your voter ID or if they cannot find your name on the voter rolls.
Bring a sample ballot into the polling place for use in the voting booth.	Remain in a voting booth for four minutes. If you need assistance, you are entitled to at least an additional five minutes to vote.	Lodge a complaint or contact the Alabama Secretary of State at 1-800-274-8683 if you think your rights have been violated.

ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE: 866-687-8683

WHAT TO KNOW AT THE POLLS



POLLING PLACE HOURS

- 7AM - 7PM
- If you are in line at your polling place by 7PM, you can vote!

BRING A VALID I.D.

- Driver's license (any state)
- AL non-driver ID
- AL photo voter ID
- US passport
- Government employee ID
- Military, Tribal, or Prison ID
- Student ID from post-high school institution

CASTING YOUR VOTE

- Regardless of how you voted in the primary election or the run-off election, you can vote for any candidate of your choice on the general election ballot.

ABSENTEE VOTING

How do I request an absentee ballot?

Download an absentee ballot application for your county at AlabamaVotes.gov or visit your county clerk's office.

Note: No absentee ballot application may be mailed in the same envelope as another voter's absentee ballot application.

How do I complete my absentee ballot?

The absentee ballot comes with three envelopes– one plain (the secrecy envelope), one with an affidavit, printed on the outside, and one plain envelope, preaddressed (the outer envelope).

Complete the ballot, and then do as follows:

- Seal the ballot in the plain envelope.
- Place the plain envelope inside the accompanying affidavit envelope.
- Seal the affidavit envelope and complete the affidavit that is on the outside of the envelope.
- Sign the affidavit and have the signature witnessed by either a notary public or two witnesses 18 years of age or older.



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

REPRESENTING YOU IN WASHINGTON D.C.

- One U.S. Senate seat
- All U.S. House of Representatives seats

REPRESENTING YOU IN ALABAMA

- Governor
- Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- State Senator
- Lt. Governor
- State Treasurer
- State Auditor
- State Representative
- State Agriculture Commissioner
- Two Public Service Commission seats
- State School Board, even seats
- Associate Justice of the Supreme Court seats
- Civil and Criminal Appeals Judges seats

* For information on county level elected officials on your ballot, see appendix.

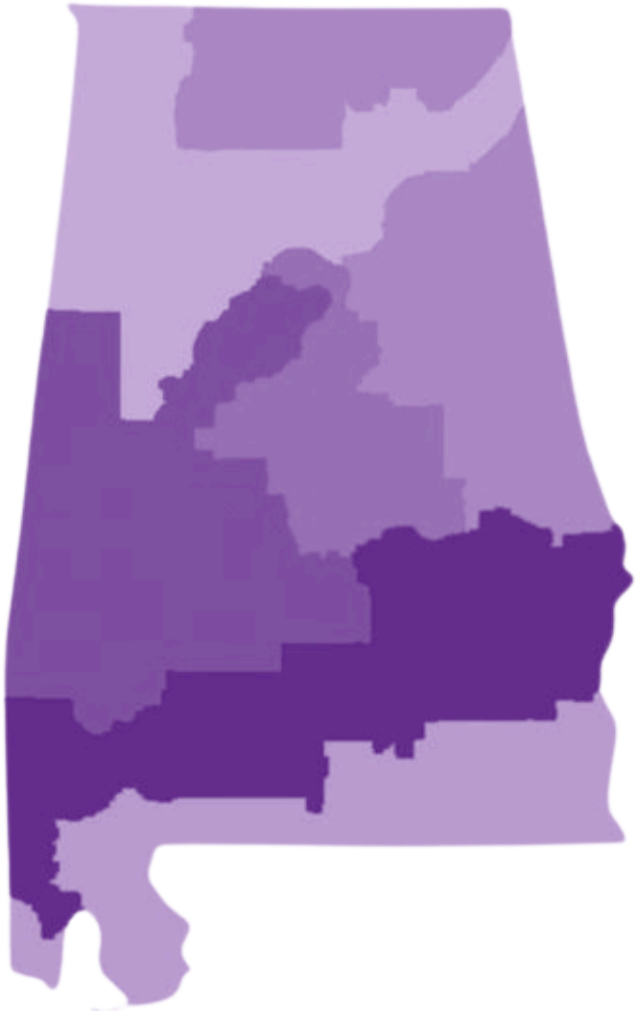


WHAT'S AT STAKE

This election year, there is more at stake than just the governor.

On your ballot there will be candidates for local office that will have an effect on your day to day life.

With your vote, you have a chance to impact things like your water bill, policing in your community, your schools, and so much more.



The Congressional Map has been redrawn.

After fighting for the creation of a second opportunity district, an Alabama court ruled to return the congressional districts to the 2022 Congressional map.

Although there have been many attacks to disenfranchise voters across the state of Alabama, it is critical that you continue to exercise your right to vote.



QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS WHILE VOTING?

CALL THE ELECTION PROTECTION HOTLINE

ENGLISH: 866-OUR-VOTE | 866-687-8683

SPANISH: 888-VE-Y-VOTA | 888-839-8682

ASIAN LANGUAGES: 888-API-VOTE | 888-274-8683

ARABIC: 844-YALLA-US | 844-925-5287

APPENDIX

15 VOTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT

16 VOTING AS A STUDENT

17 VOTING WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD

18 GUIDE TO YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

23 MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE


VOTE

VOTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT

I am being told I have to vote provisionally, what does that mean?

Provisional ballots ensure that voters are not excluded from the voting process due to an administrative error. They provide a fail-safe mechanism for voters who arrive at the polls on Election Day and whose eligibility to vote is uncertain.

A voter using a provisional ballot to vote will follow the same procedures as casting a regular ballot. Prior to receiving a provisional ballot, a voter will first need to sign an affidavit attesting to their eligibility to vote and complete a voter update form. Provisional ballots are placed in a separate secure ballot box from regular ballots.

A provisional ballot is used to record a vote when there are questions about a given voter's eligibility that must be resolved before the vote can count. A voter may be offered a provisional ballot when the voter's name is not on the voter list, the voter's name was marked off the voter list because they applied for an absentee ballot, the voter did not provide photo identification, the voter's right to vote is being challenged by an inspector.

You can track the status of their provisional ballot using the state's provisional ballot tool at myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview.

VOTING AS A STUDENT

I am a college student. Can I register to vote where I go to school? How do I vote from my home address?

Students attending college may register at their campus address or choose to remain registered or register at their home address.

If an out-of-state voter attends school in Alabama, the voter can establish residency and vote in Alabama if the voter has intention to remain in Alabama and that jurisdiction indefinitely, considering that location the voter's new home.

If the voter is registered in Alabama, but is attending school out-of-state or out of the county in Alabama they are registered in, the voter may vote in their home jurisdiction by absentee ballot.

↘

You can vote with a valid student or employee ID from a college or university in the State of Alabama (including postgraduate technical or professional schools)

VOTING WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD

I have a felony criminal conviction. Can I register to vote?

It depends.

A person who has been convicted of certain felonies involving "moral turpitude," whether in state or federal court, may register to vote and vote only if they obtain a pardon that specifically restores the right to vote, or if they are granted a Certificate of Eligibility to Vote by the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

If a person has been convicted of a felony that does not involve "moral turpitude" OR a misdemeanor, they remain eligible to vote and do not need to apply for a Certificate of Eligibility to Vote or receive a pardon.

Alabama lists specific crimes as involving "moral turpitude." Any offense not included in the list is not a crime involving "moral turpitude."

For information on restoring your voting rights, scan here.

GUIDE TO YOUR ALABAMA ELECTED OFFICIALS

STATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

GOVERNOR
TERM: 4 YEARS

The head of the executive branch executes state laws, commands our Army and Air National Guards, and signs/vetos bills from the state legislature. They also declare state of emergencies, call special sessions for the state, and pardon criminal convictions.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
TERM: 4 YEARS

The second-ranking officer in the executive branch and the first in line to succeed the Governor. The lieutenant governor acts as president of the Senate and is the tie-breaking vote.

ATTORNEY GENERAL
TERM: 4 YEARS

They defend Alabama in suits against the state. They also provide legal advice to state and county officers and advisory opinions on the constitutionality of bills as well as request execution dates for prisoners on death row. They may direct the prosecution of any criminal case in any of the courts of the state.

SECRETARY OF STATE
TERM: 4 YEARS

The Alabama chief election official certifies vote totals, candidate qualifications, and ballots. They also maintain the state government's official documents and public records.

STATE TREASURER
TERM: 4 YEARS

They handle all deposits, payments, investments, and other financial dealings on behalf of the state of Alabama.

STATE AUDITOR
TERM: 4 YEARS

They're constitutionally required to report annually on all receipts and disbursements of every character, all claims audited and paid out, and all taxes and revenues collected into the treasury.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TERM: 4 YEARS

The board consists of nine members who authorize education policy for Alabama and who appoint the State Superintendent.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
TERM: 4 YEARS

They manage the Department of Agriculture and Industries which oversees farms, animal and plant industry, pesticides, and other agricultural products.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TERM: 4 YEARS

Tasked with overseeing the regulation of public transport and utilities, this three member commission provides consumers with safe, adequate and reliable services at rates that are equitable and economical.

GUIDE TO YOUR ALABAMA ELECTED OFFICIALS

STATE JUDICIAL BRANCH

ALABAMA SUPREME COURT
TERM: 6 YEARS

This nine member court is the highest court in Alabama. They are authorized to review decisions of any state court, conclude legal matters other can't help due to lack of jurisdiction, and set official practices and procedures for all state courts.

ALABAMA SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE
TERM: 6 YEARS

The chief justice acts as administrative head of Alabama's judicial system but does not have additional authority or power during legal proceedings.

CRIMINAL APPEALS
TERM: 6 YEARS

This five member court hears matters settled at circuit court level, including exclusive jurisdiction over all misdemeanors, felonies, and habeas corpus.

CIVIL APPEALS
TERM: 6 YEARS

This five member court hears matters such as divorce, custody, worker's compensation, and appeals from administrative agencies.

STATE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TERM: 4 YEARS

While both legislative bodies pass bills on public policy matters, set levels for state spending, raise or lower taxes, the House is the only chamber that can originate revenue bills. They are also able to override a gubernatorial veto with a simple majority. There are 105 State House Representatives. Each member represents a district of approximately 40,000 people.

ALABAMA SENATE
TERM: 4 YEARS

While both legislative bodies pass bills on public policy matters, set levels for state spending, raise or lower taxes, the Senate has the sole power of confirmation of certain appointees. They are also the deliberative body and able to have lengthier debates. There are 35 State Senators. Each member represents a district of approximately 137,000 Alabamians.



GUIDE TO YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

THIS IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ALL COUNTY ELECTED OFFICES. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH COUNTY OFFICE MAY VARY ACROSS THE STATE. ADDITIONALLY, COUNTY OFFICES ARE NOT ELECTED ON THE SAME YEAR ACROSS THE STATE.

PROBATE JUDGE
TERM: 6 YEARS

Probate judges oversee judicial matters such as name changes and adoptions, public records, elections, issuing marriage licenses, and appointing notaries public.

SHERIFF
TERM: 4 YEARS

The Sheriff is county's chief law enforcement officer. Some counties have specific laws which govern the sheriff's office differently. The Alabama Supreme Court holds county sheriffs as state officers thus making them immune to most legal actions.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER
TERM: 6 YEARS

Revenue Commissioners are responsible for mapping, appraising and assessing each parcel of property and then collecting tax based upon each parcel's assessed value.

TAX ASSESSOR
TERM: 6 YEARS

The Tax Assessor's responsibility is to discover, list, assess, apply exemptions, abatements, current use, and process real and personal property tax returns.

TAX COLLECTOR
TERM: 6 YEARS

The Tax Collector is responsible for collecting, investing, and disbursing taxes. They account for the tax money or taxable property and provide budget projection services for relevant agencies.

LICENSE COMMISSIONER
TERM: 6 YEARS*

*MOBILE COUNTY LICENSE COMMISSIONER SERVES A 4 YEAR TERM

The License Commissioner is responsible for the issuance of certain business and professional licenses, motor vehicle licenses, motor vehicle titles, temporary tags, motor vehicle and boat casual sales and use taxes, drivers' licenses, and conservation licenses.

COUNTY COMMISSION
TERM: 4 YEARS*

*BARBOUR, BULLOCK, & PERRY COUNTIES ARE ELECTED TO 6 YEAR TERMS

County Commissioners develop and adopt county laws on a wide variety of topics such as public health, parks, solid waste management, roads and highways, zoning and land use. One of the central roles commissioners perform in county management is overseeing the personnel system.

GUIDE TO YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
TERM: 6 YEARS

County Boards of Education govern local school systems, promote student learning, and prepare students for college and careers. They are responsible for overseeing the education of students in the community.

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD SUPERINTENDENT
TERM: 6 YEARS

The superintendent serves as the board's chief adviser on educational matters and as the district's educational leader.

CORONER
TERM: 4 YEARS

The Coroner's responsibility is to coordinate with law enforcement, the District Attorney's Office, and the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in determining the cause and manner of death, assist families with information regarding autopsy and toxicology results, to sign death certificates, too collect county death statistics, including motor vehicle crashes, overdoses, suicides, and homicides.

FOR YOUR COUNTY'S SPECIFIC ELECTED OFFICIALS, DOWNLOAD A 2026 SAMPLE BALLOT HERE.

→

SCAN HERE


VOTE

Cut here and keep your plan to vote!

MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE

Circle how you will vote.

I will vote: IN PERSON ON NOV. 3 or ABSENTEE

I will vote: IN THE MORNING or ON MY LUNCH BREAK or AFTER WORK

I will go to the polls: ALONE or WITH A FRIEND

I will get there by: DRIVING or WALKING or SCHEDULING A RIDE

NOTES:



